

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for conducting a transfer of a conference call, comprising:

receiving a message at a media gateway to transfer a conference call from a first call resource to a second call resource;

transferring the conference call from the first call resource to the second call resource based on the message; and

communicating a prompt to the clients during the transfer of the conference call if the message indicates a change in the number of clients participating in the conference call, the prompt operable to mask the transfer of the conference call between the first and second call resources.

2. The method of Claim 1, wherein:

receiving the message at the media gateway to transfer the conference call from the first call resource to the second call resource comprises a request from an additional client to join the conference call; and

the prompt indicates that the additional client has joined the conference call.

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receiving the message at the media gateway to transfer the conference call from the first call resource to the second call resource comprises a request from one of the clients participating in the conference call to exit the conference call; and

4. The method of Claim 1, wherein:

receiving the message at the media gateway to transfer the conference call from the first call resource to the second call resource comprises a request to initiate an additional conference call on the first call resource; and

if the message does not indicate the change in the number of clients, the conference call is transferred in response to detecting a period of silence in the conference call.

5. The method of Claim 1, wherein the conference call comprises packets of voice information.

8. The media gateway of Claim 6, wherein:
the transfer message comprises a request by one of the clients participating in the conference call to exit the conference call; and
the prompt indicates that the one client exited the conference call.

9. The media gateway of Claim 6, wherein:

the transfer message comprises a request to initiate an additional conference call on the first call resource; and

if the transfer message does not indicate the change in the number of clients, the processing module is further operable to transfer the conference call in response to detecting a period of silence in the conference call.

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10. Logic encoded in media for conducting a transfer of a conference call and operable to perform the following steps:

receiving a message at a media gateway to transfer a conference call from a first call resource to a second call resource;

transferring the conference call from the first call resource to the second call resource based on the message; and

communicating a prompt to the clients during the transfer of the conference call if the message indicates a change in the number of clients participating in the conference call, the prompt operable to mask the transfer of the conference call between the first and second call resources.

11. The logic encoded in media of Claim 10, wherein:

receiving the message at the media gateway to transfer the conference call from the first call resource to the second call resource comprises a request from an additional client to join the conference call; and

the prompt indicates that the additional client has joined the conference call.

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12. The logic encoded in media of Claim 10, wherein:

receiving the message at the media gateway to transfer the conference call from the first call resource to the second call resource comprises a request from one of the clients participating in the conference call to exit the conference call; and

the prompt indicates that the one client has exited the conference call.

13. The logic encoded in media of Claim 10, wherein:

receiving the message at the media gateway to transfer the conference call from the first call resource to the second call resource comprises a request to initiate an additional conference call on the first call resource; and

if the message does not indicate the change in the number of clients, the conference call is transferred in response to detecting a period of silence in the conference call.

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14. An apparatus for conducting a transfer of a conference call, comprising:

means for receiving a message at a media gateway to transfer a conference call from a first call resource to a second call resource;

means for transferring the conference call from the first call resource to the second call resource based on the message; and

means for communicating a prompt to the clients during the transfer of the conference call if the message indicates a change in the number of clients participating in the conference call, the prompt operable to mask the transfer of the conference call between the first and second call resources.

15. The apparatus of Claim 14, wherein:

the message comprises a request from an additional client to join the conference call; and

the prompt indicates that the additional client has joined the conference call.

16. The apparatus of Claim 14, wherein:

the message comprises a request from one of the clients participating in the conference call to exit the conference call; and

the prompt indicates that the one client has exited the conference call.

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17. The apparatus of Claim 14, wherein:

the message comprises a request to initiate an additional conference call on the first call resource; and

if the message does not indicate the change in the number of clients, the conference call is transferred in response to detecting a period of silence.

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18. A method for conducting a transfer of a conference call, the method comprising:

receiving a message at a media gateway to transfer a conference call from a first call resource to a second call resource;

introducing a delay in a selected one of a first mixed media stream and a second mixed media stream to synchronize the first mixed media stream and the second mixed media stream; and

transferring the conference call from the first call resource to the second call resource upon confirming that the first and second mixed media streams are synchronized.

19. The method of Claim 18, further comprising:

receiving, at the media gateway, the first mixed stream generated by the first call resource;

receiving, at the media gateway, the second mixed media stream generated by the second call; and

analyzing the first and second mixed media streams to determine the delay between the first and second mixed media streams.

20. The method of Claim 18, wherein introducing the delay comprises:

instructing the second call resource to add the delay to the second mixed media stream; and

receiving, at the media gateway, the second mixed media stream with the added delay.

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21. The method of Claim 18, wherein introducing the delay comprises:

instructing the first call resource to add the delay to the first mixed media stream; and

receiving, at the media gateway, the first mixed media stream with the added delay.

22. The method of Claim 18, wherein the first and second mixed media streams comprise packets of voice information.

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